

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL
OF COPIES OF TRANSLATION
OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY
(CHAPTER I OR CHAPTER II)
OF THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY)
(PCT Rules 44bis.3(c) and 72.2)

To:

TADA, Shigenori
TADA Patent Office, 501, Sutera Building, 45-2,
Higashiikebukuro 2-chome, Toshima-ku,
Tokyo 170-0013
JAPON

Date of mailing (<i>day/month/year</i>) 23 March 2006 (23.03.2006)	
Applicant's or agent's file reference S04P0820	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION
International application No. PCT/JP2004/007147	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 19 May 2004 (19.05.2004)
Applicant SONY CORPORATION et al	

1. Transmittal of the translation to the applicant.

The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I).



The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

2. Transmittal of the copy of the translation to the designated or elected Offices.

The International Bureau notifies the applicant that copies of that translation have been transmitted to the following designated or elected Offices requiring such translation:

EP, KR

The following designated or elected Offices, having waived the requirement for such a transmittal at this time, will receive copies of that translation from the International Bureau only upon their request:

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3. Reminder regarding translation into (one of) the official language(s) of the elected Office(s).

The applicant is reminded that, where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned within the applicable time limit (Rule 74.1). See Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide for further details.

The International Bureau of WIPO
34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Authorized officer

Yoshiko Kuwahara

Facsimile No.+41 22 740 14 35

Facsimile No.+41 22 338 90 90

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference S04P0820	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/JP2004/007147	International filing date (day/month/year) 19.05.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 18.06.2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC		
Applicant SONY CORPORATION		

<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau</i>) a total of 12 sheets, as follows:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the International Bureau only</i>) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p>
<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</p>

Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/007147

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 - This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____ which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
 - international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 - publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
 - international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report):
 - the international application as originally filed/furnished
 - the description:

pages 1–12, 14–23, 25–29, 31–42 as originally filed/furnished

pages* 13, 13/1, 24, 30, 30/1 received by this Authority on 21.10.2004

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 - the claims:

nos. 1–28 as originally filed/furnished

nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19

nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____

nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 - the drawings:

sheets 1/19–4/19, 8/19, 9/19, 11/19, 12/19, 16/19–19/19 as originally filed/furnished

sheets* 5/19–7/19, 10/19, 13/19–15/19 received by this Authority on 21.10.2004

sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 - a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
3. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
 - the description, pages _____
 - the claims, nos. _____
 - the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 - the sequence listing (specify): _____
 - any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify): _____
4. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
 - the description, pages _____
 - the claims, nos. _____
 - the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 - the sequence listing (specify): _____
 - any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/007147

Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
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1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-28	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	1-28	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-28	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

Document 1: JP 2002-112176 A (Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.), 12 April 2002

Document 2: JP 10-56612 A (Casio Computer Co., Ltd.), 24 February 1998

Document 3: JP 8-98125 A (Ricoh Co., Ltd.), 12 April 1996

The inventions set forth in claims 1 to 14 and 17 to 28 do not involve an inventive step in the light of document 1 cited in the international search report.

Document 1 discloses a configuration whereby it is possible for a photographer to select the number of photographs s/he desires to take by means of a menu for selecting the number of pictures to be taken, which is illustrated in fig. 3. Meanwhile, the fact that it is possible to set a recording capacity that is a multiple of a prescribed recording capacity, like the extended play mode of a VTR, for example, is well known; therefore, it would have been easy for a person skilled in the art to conceive of accepting the establishment of a second management reference.

The invention set forth in claims 15 and 16 does not involve an inventive step in the light of document 1 and document 2 or 3 cited in the international search

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITYInternational application No.
PCT/JP2004/007147**Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

report. Documents 2 and 3 disclose configurations wherein a recording medium is provided to an external device that is capable of communicating data by means of wired communication or wireless communication, and the photography results are obtained by communicating the data to the external device; therefore, it would have been easy for a person skilled in the art to conceive of substituting the configuration that is disclosed in documents 2 and 3 for the recording medium in the invention that is disclosed in document 1.